

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed 12 April 2010, has been received and its contents carefully noted. The pending claims, claims 1–10, were rejected. By this amendment, claims 1 and 6 have been amended, claims 2–5 and 7–10 have been canceled, and claims 11 and 12 are newly added. Support may be found in the specification and the claims as originally filed. No statutory new matter has been added. Therefore, reconsideration and entry of the claims as amended are respectfully requested.

The Claimed Invention

According to the present invention, a library of a plurality of inorganic materials is formed by a process wherein a first substance is precipitated out of solution as a new chemical substance by the addition of a salt solution while a second substance remains in solution to give a suspension which is frozen or solidified and then sublimed. This inventive process, as claimed, results in a uniform solidification of the precipitate and the second substance, i.e. the distribution of the precipitate and the second substance is substantially the same as that of the suspension.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

The Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C.112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, may be properly withdrawn in view of the amendment to the claims.

Art Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Haas (WO 03/049849). The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 7, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kirchnerova. The Examiner rejected claims 2 and 4–6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haas or Kirchnerova in view of Allison (US 6,723,886).

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited documents, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest preparing a plurality of inorganic materials in the form of a library which requires at least two suitable vessels arranged in parallel and immersed in a cooling medium or a

cooling medium flows around them and the process steps are partly carried out in parallel as set forth in the instant claims. Similarly, the cited documents, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the specific device structure as claimed.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is novel and unobvious and the art rejections should properly be withdrawn.

It is noted that claims that are substantially the same as new claims 11 and 12 have been allowed in a Japanese application that corresponds to the instant application.

Request for Interview

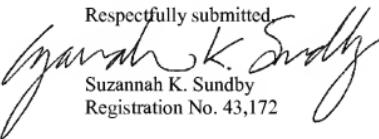
Either a telephonic or an in-person interview is respectfully requested should there be any remaining issues.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Official action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to **Deposit Account No. 024300, Attorney Docket No. 032301.458**.

Respectfully submitted,


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